Unveiling Pakistani English: A Linguistic and Cultural Odyssey of Features, Evolution, and Distinctiveness

Tahira Asgher [1]   Asma Kashif Shahzad [2]   Anum Hanif [3]

Abstract: *Pakistani English, recognized as a unique non-native, emerging, and indigenous variety of English, has evolved into an independent norm-dependent, and institutionalized language form. Diverging from Standard British English, it exhibits distinctive features in morphology, syntax, lexis, grammar, and phonology, shaped by socio-cultural, religious, and regional influences, contributing to its singular linguistic and cultural identity. Utilized across various domains, including education, commerce, and science and technology, Pakistani English plays a pivotal role within the Pakistani context. This comprehensive study sheds light on Pakistani English, encompassing its historical development, and conducting an in-depth exploration of its linguistic characteristics, namely lexical, morphological, syntactic, and phonological features. Additionally, it meticulously delineates the distinctions between Pakistani English and Standard British English. The research adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining qualitative analysis of linguistic data with ethnographic insights, providing a holistic understanding of Pakistani English's intricate interplay between language and culture. The study underscores the significance of these findings in advancing the fields of linguistic and cultural studies, offering valuable insights into the complex dynamics of language evolution and its profound impact on cultural identity and communication in the contemporary world.*

Introduction

Language serves as a fundamental principle of communication. Universally, numerous languages are employed at social, cultural, and regional levels to facilitate interaction and connection among people (Yasir et al., 2021). Among these languages, one stands out in global dominance and influence: English (Haider and Manan, 2021). It serves as a global lingua franca for communication (Qureshi, Mohammad, and Jadoon, 2023).

English's reach extends across various fields, including politics, media, education, and the judiciary (Somroo, 2022), as well as in trade, science, medicine, business, and technology. Kachru and Nelson (2001, as cited in Fareed, Khan, and Ghangro, 2022) aptly describe English as "the most widely taught, read, and spoken language that the world has ever known." It finds usage in approximately 118 out of 195 countries for communicative purposes (Yadav, 2018).Globally, there is not a single variety of English that is spoken around the world (Yasir et al., 2021). Instead, there are multiple varieties—more than hundreds of them—that are used in diversified ecological, social, cultural and linguistic contexts (Qureshi, Mohammad and Jadoon, 2023) and functions differently for a number of people around the world living in diverse cultures (Kachru, 2006 as cited in Qureshi, Mohammad and Jadoon, 2023) as discussed by Kachru (1986) in his concept "WORLD ENGLISHES" (Khan, 2012) which refers to localized, indigenized, norm-dependent and legitimate varieties of English having their own particular features according to contexts in which they are

[1] Associate Professor, Department of English Linguistics, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan.
[2] Associate Professor, Humanities Department, COMSATS University Islamabad, Vehari Campus, Punjab, Pakistan.
[3] PhD Scholar, Department of English Linguistics, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan.

used (Yasir et al., 2021). These varieties differ from Standard variety that is British English (Somroo, 2022), also known as Queen's English (Akram et al., 2017) and result in unparalleled broadening of English horizon at International level (Jilani and Anwar, 2018). Hence, it shows that the natives of English Language are no longer propertied of it (Somroo, 20222022) rather it is propertied by all those who use it all over the world (Bilal et al., 2012, as cited in Khan, 2022).

Pakistan is enlisted as the third biggest Asian country where English is spoken at a wide range (Raza, 2008 as cited in Khan, 2020) and variety that is used in this part of the world is known as Pakistani English—PE. Pakistani English is a broadly used non-native emerging independent variety of English language around the world (Khan 2020). Kachru (1986, as cited in Siddqui and keerio, 2019) referred it as the Institutionalized Second   Language Variety, while Baumgardener (1987) considered it as the indigenous and systematized variety of English language. While it exhibits harmonization with Asian and South Asian English due to its sub-variety status, it is still considered independent (Sarfraz, 2021).

Pakistani English

The dialect or variety of English language that is used in the context of Pakistan is known as Pakistani English—PE (Shahid, 2020). Qureshi, Muhammad and Jadoon (2023) defined Pakistani English as non-native variety of English that came to an existence by the contact taken place between British English and indigenous Pakistani languages. Somroo (2022) mentioned that PE is a non-native and institutionalized variety of English. It is an emerging independent variety of the English language that has developed in the linguistic and cultural context of Pakistan. It is characterized by a blend of British and American English, as well as various linguistic and cultural influences from the South Asian region. It became eminent in 1970s and 1980s and now it is used by refugees, migrants and tourists within the territories of Pakistan (Shahid, 2020). Informally, the slang terms "Pinglish" and "Paklish" are used synonymously for Pakistani English (Zeba dn Bashar, 2019; Nordquist, 2020). Like other sub-varieties of English, Rahman (2022) divides PE into four subcategories which are discusses in the next section.

Sub-varieties of Pakistani English

On the basis of proximity to British English, Rehman (2022) discussed 04 sub-varieties of Pakistani English (Nordquist, 2020) in his work "Pakistani English: The Linguistic Description of Non-Native Variety of English" which are *Anglicized English, Acrolect, Mesolect and Basilect.* Kachru (1985: 18 as cited in Rehman, 2022) mentioned Anglicized English as "Native-like competent variety", Acrolect—educated variety, mesolect—semi-educated variety and basilect—bazaar variety.

Anglicized English (Native-Like variety): a variety which is almost similar to British English (BE). It only varies from BE in the features of phonology and phonetics. It is being used by those people who either stick around to BE for a longer period of time or highly educated like reputed International writers/ administrators and have westernized kinship.

Acrolect: a variety that differs from BE with respect to phonology, morphology, syntax, lexis and semantics. It is being used by upper middle class people whose schooling is done in English medium schools. For example, journalists, professionals, administrators, etc.

Mesolect: a variety that is totally different from BE. It is being used by middle or upper middle class people who have been educated from Urdu medium school.

Besilect— a variety used by less educated individuals like clerks, minor officials, etc. it is also considered as Indian Pidgin English—IPE (Mehrotra, 1982, as cited in Rehman, 2022).

History of Pakistani English

Pakistani English emerged when Pakistan came into existence in 1947 (Jadoon and Ahmad, 2022). The history of Pakistani English emergence has its roots back in 16th century (Sarfraz, 2021) before the position of British India (Siddique and Keerio, 2019) when English was first introduced in Indian subcontinent (Jadoon and Ahmad, 2022). According to the estimation, the establishment of direct contact between English and the languages of subcontinent was first appeared in 1579 with the arrival of Thomas Stephens, the Jesuit Missionary in India (Lewis, 1991; Mehrotra,1998, as cited in Jadoon and Ahmad, 2022). After the

two decades of his arrival, a group of British colorizers—in the form of merchants—were sent to the Indian subcontinent by Queen Elizabeth through the gateway of East India Company charter for the purpose of trading with India in order to set the stage for the development English as a contact language (Akram et al., 2017). The real aim behind their arrival was to convert Indian people into Englishmen by reinforcing the power over central government but they didn't get a chance to do that till the 18th century when the Mughal's last Muslim dynasty started declining gradually (Khan, 2012). The Mughal Empire owes its declination because of two major reasons:

1. Aurangzeb's orthodox religious policies towards Sikhs and Marathas caused disunity among Indians.
2. The division of kingdom among his children on his death

These circumstances led to the creation of a power vacuum in Indian subcontinent. British colonizers took an advantage of this and started strengthening their position in power. History shows that British forces emerged victorious in all conflicts and established the British Raj by 1818 in India (Siddique and Keerio, 2019). After becoming in power, British colonizers started working on their mission of making "Brown Englishmen"—people who are Indians in color and blood but Englishmen in taste, character, morals and intellect—by imposing British culture and traditions through a language. English is announced as official language by Macaulay in 1835 (Khan, 2012) and spread to every corner of the subcontinent. After the subcontinent partitioned in 1947, native speakers of English stayed in these parts with non-native speakers and thus the process of acculturation took place. After getting the independence in 1947, English retained its status as the official language in Pakistan and is used in every field of life. Now, it has evolved into a distinct variety of English with its own linguistic features and characteristics known as Pakistani English.

Origin of Pakistani English

Pakistani English came into existence after the partition of Indian Subcontinent in 1947. Since its emergence till 1980s, Pakistani English remained unnoticed by linguists (Hamid and Afsar, 2021). Pakistani English attained its recognition as a distinctive independent variety with the emerging concept of World Englishes proposed by Bras Kachru in 1986 (Siddiqui and Kerio, 2019). This new concept set the boundaries between indigenous varieties of English language spoken in various parts of the world. Pakistani English is present in in the outer circle and Kachru (1986) considered it as the institutionalized second language (Sarfraz, 2021) as he included PE into the outer circle along with IE, which exhibits that English is institutionalized and used as a second language within the context of Pakistan.

Literature Review

On linguistic grounds, the earlier studies conducted on Pakistani English mainly focused on the variations English has undergone syntactically, phonologically, morphologically, and lexically in the context of Pakistan in relation to British English (Hamid and Asfar, 2021). For instance, Somroo (2022) conducted a study to investigate the differences between PE and BE with regards to pronunciation and semantic features. The results showed that PE possesses its own distinctive norms and features of pronunciation and semantics that deviate from BE. Similarly, Akram et al. (2017) and Yasir et al. (2021) investigated the phonological shift of PE from BE and deduced that PE's phonology is different, making it unique in nature. Moreover, Sarfraz (2021) conducted a case study on the novel "Twilight in Delhi" written by Ahmad Ali to investigate the lexical variations in PE. The results showed that PE involves words that are blends of English and various Pakistani native varieties, making it an independent variety. Further, he analyzed that processes of borrowing and hybridization are highly prevalent in PE. Likewise, Zeb and Bashar (2019) conducted a study to explore the differences between the semantic and lexical features of PE and BE. They arrived at the same results as the studies mentioned above. In a similar vein, Qureshi, Muhammad, and Jadoon (2023) analyzed Pakistani Anglophone Literature to investigate the borrowing of lexical items in PE and found that PE borrows a large number of lexis from Urdu and other indigenous languages spoken in Pakistan. This demonstrates that PE has its own lexicon system representing its cultural and linguistic identity. Khan (2012) examined the evolution of PE as a legitimate variety by studying its syntactic, lexical, morphological, and phonological features, aiming to find that it possesses its own norms and standards. The present study explores various features of Pakistani English such as phonological, morphological, lexical, and syntactic ones and how these features differ from BE.

Features of Pakistani English

Pakistani English, which represents its independent linguistic and cultural identity (Sarfraz, 2021), can be studied at various levels such as the lexical, syntactic, phonological, and grammatical levels. Some of the distinctive features of Pakistani English are given below:

Phonetic and Phonological Features

Heterogeneity exists within Pakistani English itself, stemming not only from its speakers' socio-economic, geographical, and educational backgrounds but also from the interference of native languages spoken by its speakers (Mahboob and Ahmar, 2002). Pakistan is a multilingual country where approximately 69 different languages are spoken by its natives. The speakers of each language pronounce English differently. For example, the word "start" is pronounced differently by Punjabi and Urdu speakers.

- Urdu speakers: Start [ɪstɑːrt]
- Punjabi speakers: Start [sətɑːrt]

Regrettably, the phonological field of Pakistani English remains underdeveloped to the present day (Khan, 2012) due to the absence of reliable studies in this field (Akram et al., 2017). Only Mahboob and Ahmar (2004) have supported the phonological field of Pakistani English, discussing certain phonetic and phonological features. These features are as follows:

Phonetic Features (Sounds of Pakistani English)
A. Difference in the Use of Vowels

Several vowel sounds (monophthong s and diphthongs) spoken by Pakistani English speakers differ from those spoken by British English speakers. For example:

- British speakers use "/ʊ/" in the word "foot," which is replaced by Pakistani speakers with "/uː/."
- British Speakers: Foot [/fʊt/]
- Pakistani Speakers: Foot [/fuːt/]

Furthermore, some diphthongs are replaced by monophthongs in Pakistani English:

- British Speakers: Face [/feɪs/]
- Pakistani Speakers: Face [/feːs/]

B. Difference in the Use of Consonants
a) Rhoticity

Pakistani English is considered a rhotic variety of English because its speakers pronounce the consonant sound /r/ in all contexts. For example:

- British Speakers: Heart [/hɑːt/]
- Pakistani Speakers: Heart [/hɑːrt/]

b) Distinction between /v/ and /w/ Sound:

Speakers of Pakistani English do not phonemically distinguish between the pronunciation of the /v/ and /w/ sounds due to the absence of such distinction in the Urdu language. These are considered allophones of the /w/ sound. For example:

- Pakistani Speakers: Wind [/vɪnd/] or [/wɪnd/]

Phonological Features

a) Pronunciation: Speakers of PE pronounce words according to their spellings.
b) Epenthesis: Speakers of PE insert additional vowel sounds in words.

For example: – British Speakers: Stall [/stɔːl/]
- Pakistani Speakers: Stall [/sətɑːl/] (Here, an additional /ə/ vowel sound is added)

c) Aspiration: Speakers of Pakistani English do not aspirate stops when used before words. For example:
- British speakers: Kit [/kʰɪt/]
- Pakistani Speakers: Kit [/kɪt/]

d) Reduction in Vowel Sounds: Some Pakistani speakers reduce unstressed vowel sounds to schwa sounds.

Lexical/ Morphological Features

The fundamental features in the linguistic studies of Pakistani English is "lexis" (Mehboob, 2004, as cited in japan and Ahmad ,2022). Researchers claimed that, the lexical domain of Pakistani English has shown a rapid and significant expansion because of various reasons like,

1. Borrowing
2. Affixation
3. Compounding
4. Hybridization
5. Loan translation
6. Conversion
7. Archaisms (Jadoon and Ahmad 2022).

Borrowing

A process in which one language adapted a word that has its origination in another language is known as borrowing. Simply, when one language takes words of another language in a communication is known as borrowing. It is also known as lexical borrowing. The words that are borrowed from other languages are known as borrowed word/loan word. In the case of Pakistani English, it has played a significant role in an enrichment of the dictionary of PE (Khan, 2020). Various words has been borrowed not only from Arabic, Persian, Sanskrit (Sarfraz, 2021) but also from indigenous languages used in Pakistan like Urdu, Sindhi, Balochi, Pashto, etc. (Jadoon and Ahmad 2022) in order to represent Islamic and Pakistani culture's conceptions, religious values and Pakistan's society. But the common donor from which Pakistani English has borrowed, number of words is Urdu language (Sarfraz, 2021).

Tabe 1

Loan words from Urdu	Loan words from Arabic	Loan words from Pakistani native languages
Burqa	Zina	Jirga (Pashto word)
Eid	Masha Allah	Neevin (Punjabi word)
Musalman	Subhan Allah	Sain (Sindhi word)
Mela	Assalam o Alaikum	
(Sarfraz, 2021)	(Mehboob, 2009, as cited in Khan, 2012)	(Rahman, 2022)

Affixation

One of the common means of formation of words in Pakistani English is affixation (Mehboob, 2004 as cited in Jadoon and Ahmad, 2022; Baumgardner, 1998). The process of affixation involves suffixation and prefixation. Suffixes attach at the end of the base words like"—ed"is used with base words "grant" to create new word "granted" , while prefixes attach before the base words like "anti—" is added before the word "colonialism" to create new word like "anti-colonialism".

a) Suffixation

Suffixes used in Pakistani English can be from English, Urdu or any other language (Mahboob, 2004) and can be used with English or Urdu base words (Baumgardner, 1998). Urdu Suffixes retained as it is in Pakistani English (Jadoon and Ahmad, 2022). Most commonly used Urdu-based suffix is "—Wallah"—also spelled "walla, wala and walah" and also used in feminine from "wali" (Baumgardner, 1998).
Wallah, walla, wala and walah—represents masculine
Wali—represents feminine

Tabe 2

Urdu suffix with Urdu base words			Urdu suffix with English base word		
Urdu word + Urdu Suffix		Formation of new word	English word + Urdu suffix		Formation of new word
Channa	Walla	Channy-walla	Box	Walla	Box-walla
Pani	Walla	Pani-walla	Ballon	Walla	Balloon-walla
Churi	Wali	Churi-wali	Rickshaw	Walla/ Wali	Rickshaw-walla

Similarly, English suffixes are also used with both English as well as Urdu base words in Pakistani English. "—d", "—ism", "—ee", "—i", "—ship", "—ation", "—cracy", "—ish" and other English suffixes are used in Pakistani English (Mahboob, 2004). Baumgardner (1998) in his work "Word-Formation in Pakistani English" mentioned some of the examples of suffixation which are as follows:

Tabe 3

English Suffixes with Urdu base words			English Suffixes with English base words		
Urdu Word + English Suffix		New Word Formation	English Word + English Suffix		New Word Formation
Sufi	--ism	Sufism	Affect	--ee	Affectee
Biradri	--ism	Biradrism	Child	--ish	Childish
Shariat	--ation	Sharitisation	Wheat	--ish	Wheatish
Shoora	--cracy	Shooracracy	Brother	--ism	Brotherism
Pathan	--ship	Pathanship	Job	--ism	Jobism

b Prefixation

English prefixes are mostly used in Pakistani English with Urdu base words. The words formed from this type of prefixation—English suffix + Urdu Bas word—are also borrowed by Pakistani Urdu (Baumgardner, 1998). "Anti—", "counter—", "super—", "non—", etc. are used in Paksitani English.

Tabe 4

English Prefix + Urdu base word		New Word Formation
Anti	Awami	Anti-awami
Counter	Fatwa	Counter-fatwa
Non	Karachite	Non-karachite
Super	chamcha	Super-chamcha

Compounding

Another feature used in Pakistani English is the process of compounding in which two lexical components combined together to form a new lexis (Jadoon and Ahmad, 2022). The noun, pronoun, verb and adjective compounds exist in Pakistani English have both English forms and they can be hybrid Urdu- English, English-Urdu (Baumgardner, 1998).

Tabe 5

Compounding		
English + English forms	English + Urdu Forms	Urdu + English forms
Muslim Shower	Fruit chaat	Jinaah cap
Side hero	Police thaana	Iftaar party
Bed sheet	Bus adda	Goonda tax

Bauer (1983: 203, as cited in baumgardnee 1998) also talked about oppositional compound in which the first form represents the gender for instance, woman doctor, girl-friend, boy-fried, etc. In Pakistani English, the appositional compound commonly used is lady doctor.

Hybridization

It is a type of compounding in which one lexical component of one language combined together with lexical component of another language is known as hybridization (Sarfraz, 2021). Pakistani English involves hybridized words for representing either Islamic or Pakistani cultural concept (Rahman, 2022). For example:

Tabe 6

Arabic words	+ English Words	Hybridized Words	Explanations
Ushr (عُشر)	Tax	Ushr Tax	Islamic tax on land
Zakat (زکاۃ)	Ordinance	Zakat Ordinance	Islamic tax law
Nikah (نکاح)	Ceremony	Nikah Ceremony	Islamic marriage rituals
Bismillah (بسم اللہ)	Ceremony	Bismillah Ceremony	A ceremony organized for child who starts learning Quran
Aqiqah (عقیقہ)	Ceremony	Aqiqah Ceremony	Child naming ceremony
Ittar (عطر)	Bottle	Ittar bottle	Bottle of special scent

Archaisms

Another feature of Pakistani English is "archaisms" that means the existence of obsolete vocabulary items which are no longer the part of British English for e.g. druggist, thrice, moot

Conversion

When a word which belongs to one part of speech is used as another part of speech is known as conversion (Mahboob, 2004). In simple words a word shifts from one part of speech to another. Pakistani English also undergoes this process for the word formation (Baumgardner, 1998). For example:

Tabe 7

Conversions	Examples
Adjective to Noun (Adjective Noun) ⟶	
Faithful ⟶ Faithfuls	The number of those Pakistani faithfuls who will perform Umra
Poor ⟶ Poors	Political and social sectors have demanded the government to provide shelter to poors
Noun to Verb (Noun Verb) ⟶	
Aircraft ⟶ To aircraft	Plans to aircraft the ailing Khudai Khidmatgar leader from New Delhi to Peshawar.
Chargesheet ⟶ To chargesheet	40 employees were chargesheeted by Mayor in different charges
Urdu Noun to Verb (Urdu noun Urdu verb) ⟶	
Challan ⟶ To challan	The police challaned 237 drivers for violation of traffic rules.
Urdu Adjective to verb (Urdu Adjective Urdu verb) ⟶	
Sabakdosh ⟶ To sabakdosh	He has announced that he is more than eager to sabakdosh himself from the farz.

Loan Translations

Direct translation of various expressions from Urdu and other indigenous languages to English can be evidently found in Pakistani English. These expressions can be words (simple or compound), phrases, idioms, metaphors and related cultural concepts that are directly translated into English. Sarfraz (2021)

analyzed some of the direct translations of Urdu expressions into English Language which are given as follows:

Tabe 8

Urdu Expressions	Translations in PE
روزہ رکھنا	Keep Fasting
آنکھوں میں خون اترنا	Blood in his eyes
فرنگیوں	Frangis
پانچوں انگلیاں گھی میں	Five finger in ghee these days
برقہ	Head to toe veil
کالا پل	Black bridge

Semantic Extension

Various lexical items are noted in Pakistani English that show extension or the shift in the meanings of those words (Siddqui and Keerio, 2019). For example,

Tabe 9

Expressions	Meaning in BE	Meaning in PE
Uncle/Aunty	Used for brother and sister of your mother or father	Used for every elder person
Teacher	Used for every person who is teaching at any level	Used for a person who is teaching at school level
Miss	To represent unmarried women	Used to indicate teachers
Sir	Used to address a person whose name is unknown to you	Used for a male who is powerful.

Syntactic/ Grammatical Features

At the syntax level, Pakistani English is quite different from British English. It involves word-order changes, different use of tenses, clauses, phrases, prepositions and articles as well as the omission and addition of words both at the sentential and clausal level (Ahmar and Mahboob, 2004). Rahman (2022) provides a detailed discussion on grammatical/syntactic features of Pakistani English which are as follows:

Use of Progressive Aspect

Pakistani English commonly uses progressive aspect in relation to habitual and completed actions. For example,

BE: I do it often.
PE: I am doing it all the time. (Rahman, 2022; p, 36)

Moreover, PE also uses progressive aspect with stative which is not found in BE. Stative verbs refer to those verbs which represents physical, psychological, emotional and mental state of a person (Gokhale, 1982:32, as cited in Rahman, 2022). For example,

BE: I can see the sky from here.
PE: I am seeing the sky from here.

Use of Perfective Aspect:
In PE, perfective aspect is used with the adverbs that show past-time. For example:

BE: I saw him yesterday.
PE: I have seen him yesterday.

Difference in Subject–Verb Inversion

In PE, subject-verb inversion is used in the indirect questions but absent in direct questions. The situation is opposite in BE. For example:

Tabe 10

Direct Questions	Indirect Questions
BE: What is this made from?	**BE:** I asked him where he is?
PE: What this is made from?	**PE:** I asked him where is he?

Lack of Subject-verb Agreement

PE lacks the subject-verb agreement. For example:

BE: He always goes to school.
PE: He always go to school.

Tag Questions

It has been observed that single tag question "isn't it?" may be used in PE. On the other side, BE used different tag questions. For example,

BE: You are ill, aren't you?
PE: You are ill, isn't it?

Difference in use of Complementation

The work on PE syntax mainly focuses on the use of complementation. PE uses complementation differently as compared to BE. For instance, in adjective complementation, BE uses to-infinitive with adjective while PE uses preposition followed by –ing participle.

BE: He is not prepared to repay the money.
PE: PIA is prepared for filing an insurance claim.

Use of Preposition

Preposition is used differently in PE as compared to BE. The difference can be seen on 03 grounds:

a) Omission of preposition: In PE, the preposition is omitted where BE used it. "ϕ" represents the sign of omission of preposition. For example:

BE: To dispense with.
PE: To dispense ϕ.

b) Addition of Preposition: In PE, the preposition is used at a place where BE doesn't use. For example:

BE: To combat poverty
PE: To combat against poverty

c) Substitution of Preposition: In PE, there is a choice of using preposition. It means that preposition used in BE is substituted by another preposition in PE on the grounds of equivalence. For example:

BE: What is the time by your Watch?
PE: What is the time in your watch?
BE: Get off.
PE: Get out/ Get from.

Omission of Auxiliary verbs "do, does, did"

In casual speech, mostly Pakistani English speakers do not use auxiliary verbs "do, does, did" in their speech. For example:

BE: How did you get there?
PE: How you got there?

Use of Articles

The use of articles is different in PE as compared to BE. In PE, articles are omitted where it is necessary and added where it is not needed ("ɸ" represents the omission of articles). For example:

PE: He said that ɸ Education ministry is recognizing ɸ English Syllabus.
PE: My father is ɸ lecturer.
PE: The England is a good place (Addition of an article).

Use of Simple Present Tense

In PE, use of simple aspect of present tense is rarely found with the phrases that show time duration instead of perfective aspect of tense. For example,

BE: He has been studying Sindhi since 1960.
PE: He is studying Sindhi since 1960.

Different Reporting Style of Indirect Speech

In PE, the style of reporting indirect speech shows the direct translation from Urdu to English. For example,

BE: He told me that he is coming.
PE: He told me that I am coming.

(It shows the translation of Urdu sentence: اس نے کہا کہ میں آ رہا ہوں)

Different use of Nouns

Some mass nouns of BE are used in pluralized forms like countable noun by PE. For example,

Table 11

Mass-nouns in British English	Mass-nouns in Pakistani English
Aircraft	Aircrafts
Vegetable	Vegetables
Fruit	Fruits
Wood	Wood

Differences between Pe and Be

Pakistani English, a non-native variety of English, owned a number of unique features that can be studied in relation to Standard British English. Phonologically, syntactically, morphologically and grammatically PE differs from BE. Some differences are given below:

Table 12
Phonological differences between pakistani and british english

Phonological Differences					
Sounds in British English	Examples		Replaced sounds in Pakistani English	Examples	
	Word	Phonetic Transcription		Word	Phonetic Transcription
Use of consonant sounds /θ/ and /ð/	This	/ðəʊz/	Replaced /θ/ and /ð/ with sounds /th/ and /d/	This	/doːz/
Use vowel sounds /ɔː/ and /ɒ/	Watch Walk	/wɒtʃ/ /wɔːk/	/ɔː/ and /ɒ/ sometimes replaced by /ɑː/	Watch Walk	/wɑːtʃ/ /wɔːk/
Aspirated sounds at the	Television School	/tʰelɪvɪʒn/ /skʰuːl/	Non-aspirated sounds at initial position /p t k/	Television School	/telɪvɪʒn/ /skuːl/

Phonological Differences					
Sounds in British English	Examples		Replaced sounds in Pakistani English	Examples	
	Word	Phonetic Transcription		Word	Phonetic Transcription
initial position /pʰ tʰ kʰ/					
Th, /θ/	North	/nɔːθ/	/t/	North	/nɔːt/
/f/	Photo	/fəʊtəʊ/	/p/	Photo	/pəʊtəʊ/
/w/ and /v/ sounds differently	Never	/nevə/	No difference in /w/ and /v/	Never	/newər/
/r/ is not pronounced	Finger Heart Start	/fɪŋgə /hɑːt/ /stɑːt/	/r/ is pronounced—shows Rhoticity	Finger Heart Start	/fɪŋgər/ /hɑːrt/ /stɑːrt/
No use of epenthesis in consonants /st/, /sk/, /sp/	Study School Stall	/stʌdi/ /skʰuːl/ /stɔːl/	Epinthetic vowels are used	Study School Stall	/ɪstʌdi/ /ɪskuːl/ /sətɑːl/
Use of diphthongs /əʊ/ and /eɪ/	Face Goat	/feɪs/ /gəʊt/	Diphthongs replaced by /e:/ /o:/	Face Goat	/fe:s/ /go:t/
Use of short vowel /ʊ/	Foot	/fʊt/	Short vowel /ʊ/ replaced by long vowel /u:/	Foot	/fuːt/
/v/ sound is produced when used at final position in word	Love	/lʌv/	/v/ sound is not produced when used at final position in word	Love	/luo/

Source: (English in East and South Asia: Policy, Features and Language in Use by Ee Ling Low and Anne Pakir 2021)

Table 13

Lexical differences between pakistani and british english

Lexical/Morphological Differences			
British English	Examples	Pakistani English	Examples
No hybridized compounds are present		Hybridized compounds are present	Ushr Tax
Only English affixes are used	"-ism", "-ation", "un-", "non-"	Both English and Urdu affixes are used	"ism", "-ation", "-wallah", "-wali"
Affixes are used with only English base words	Undeveloped Anti-bacterial Cultivation	Affixes are used with both English and Urdu base words	Sufism Balloon-walla Sharitisation
In appositional compounds, "woman" is used to represent female gender.	Woman doctor	In appositional compounds, "lady" is used to represent female gender.	Lady doctor
"un-" prefix used to mention the opposite	Unauthorized	"de-" prefix used to mention the opposite	De-authorized

Source: (Word Formation in Pakistani English by Robert J. Baumgardner 1998)

Table 14

Syntactic/ grammatical differences between pakistani and british english

Syntactic/Grammatical Differences			
British English	Examples	Pakistani English	Examples
Native variety of English		Non-Native variety of English	

Syntactic/Grammatical Differences			
British English	**Examples**	**Pakistani English**	**Examples**
Norm-Independent		Norm-dependent	
Presence and use of articles	The government has denied itself the privilege	Omission of articles "φ" represents the sign of omission.	He said that φ education ministry is recognizing φ English syllabus.
Simple aspect is used with stative verbs.	I can see the sky from here.	Progressive aspect of tense is used with stative verbs.	I am seeing the sky from here.
Some nouns are used only in partitive phrases.	A piece of chalk Slices of toast	Nouns are not used in patitive phrases	Chalks Toasts
Subject-verb inversion is used in direct questions.	What is this made from?	Subject-verb inversion is not followed in direct questions.	What this is made from?
No subject-verb inversion is used in indirect question.	I asked him where he is?	Subject-verb inversion is used in indirect questions.	I asked him where is he?
Use of auxiliaries "do, does, did"	How did you get there?	Omission of auxiliaries "do, does, did"	How you got there?
Use of simple-past tense with past-time adverbs	I saw him yesterday.	Use of perfect aspect with simple past time adverbs	I have seen him yesterday.
Use of present perfect with durational phrases	He has been studying Sindhi since 1960.	Use of progressive aspect of present tense with durational phrases	He is studying Sindhi since 1960.
Use of subject-verb agreement	He always goes there	Lack of subject-verb agreement.	He always go there.
Use of mass nouns without pluralized forms.	Aircraft Vegetable Fruit	Use of mass noun with pluralized forms.	Aircrafts Vegetables Fruits
Different Tag questions are used according to the noun or pronoun used.	You are ill, aren't you?	Only one tag question "isn't it?" may be used.	You are ill, isn't it?

Source: (PAKISTANI ENGLISH: The Linguistic Description of a Non-Native Variety of English by Tariq Rahman 2022)

Conclusion

The discussion above demonstrates that Pakistani English (PE) is indeed a unique linguistic variety with a rich cultural and linguistic identity. PE stands as the third-largest English-speaking Asian country globally, a testament to its growing influence. Our research has shed light on the distinctive features of PE, including phonological, lexical, and syntactic elements, each influenced by the cultural and social context of Pakistan. For instance, the lexical expansion of PE has been remarkable, with countless loanwords borrowed from languages such as Arabic, Urdu, and indigenous languages. Examples include 'Ushr Tax' from Arabic 'Ushr,' 'Mela' from Hindi/Urdu, and 'Subhan Allah' from Arabic. Furthermore, PE's phonological landscape reflects the diverse linguistic background of its speakers. The pronunciation variations of sounds like /θ/ and /ð/, replaced with /th/ and /d/, are evident. Research studies, such as Akram et al. (2017) and Yasir et al. (2021), have documented these phonological distinctions. Additionally, the grammatical peculiarities, such as subject-verb inversion and the use of progressive aspects with stative verbs, set PE apart from British English. The ongoing standardization process underscores that PE is not just evolving but also establishing its own linguistic norms and cultural identity. This linguistic

distinctiveness in PE has profound implications for education, media, and communication within Pakistan, solidifying its status as a legitimate and vibrant variety of English."

References

Baumgardner, R. J. (1998). Word-formation in Pakistani English. *English World-Wide*, *19*(2), 205–246. https://doi.org/10.1075/eww.19.2.04bau

Haider, S., & Manan, S. A. (2021). *English in East and South Asia: Policy, Features and Language in Use. 1ˢᵗ* Edition, London, Routledge. https://doi.org/10.4324/9780429433467–1

Khan, H. I. (2012). The evolution of Pakistani English (PakE) as a legitimate variety of English. *International Journal of Applied Linguistics & English Literature*, *1*(5), 90–99. https://doi.org/10.7575/ijalel.v.1n.5p.90

Jadoon, N. K., & Ahmad, M. (2022). A study of lexical features of Pakistani English. *Pakistan Journal of Social Research*, *04*(04), 891–901. https://doi.org/10.52567/pjsr.v4i04.900

Jilani, S. F., & Anwar, B. (2018). Lexico-semantic features of Pakistani English newspapers: A corpus-based approach. *International Journal of English Linguistics*, *8*(4), 50. https://doi.org/10.5539/ijel.v8n4p50

Khan, T. A. (2020). Morphological integration of Urdu loan words in Pakistani English. *English Language Teaching*, *13*(5), 49. https://doi.org/10.5539/elt.v13n5p49

Mahboob, A. (2003). The English Language in Pakistan: A Brief of its history and Linguistics. Greenville, N.C., USA.

Qureshi, M., Muhammad, S., & Jadoon, N. K. (2023). Lexis of Pakistani English: A study of lexical borrowing in Pakistani Anglophone literature. *Pakistan Journal of Social Research*, *05*(02), 1017–1026. https://doi.org/10.52567/pjsr.v5i02.1214

Rahman, T. (2022). *PAKISTANI ENGLISH: The Linguistic Description of a Non-Native Variety of English.* 3ʳᵈ edition, PCL-Press, Graz-Berlin.

Sarfraz, M. (2021). Lexical variations in Pakistani English: A case study of the novel twilight in Delhi. *International Journal of Linguistics, Literature and Translation*, *4*(6), 252–260. https://doi.org/10.32996/ijllt.2021.4.6.30

Siddiqui, A., & Keerio, A. K. (2019). Analyzing the Linguistic Components of Pakistani English: An Indigenized Legitimate English Variety. *MARS. 1*(2), 1–5. https://doi.org/10.53057/linfo/2019.1.2.1

Somroo, M. (2022). Pronunciation and Semantic Differences in Pakistani and British English. PEPERTUS: *Journal of Linguistics, Language Planning and Policy.* *1*(1), 62–73. https://rjllp.muet.edu.pk/index.php/repertus/article/view/1/5

Yasir, H. S. M., Bashir, A., Jahan, J., Zamir, N., & Maryam, A. (2021). Phonological Shifts in Pakistani English (PakE): A comparative Study under Standard British English. *Xlkogretin Online — Elementary Education. 20*(5), 795–806. https://www.ilkogretim-online.org/fulltext/218-1616651580.pdf

Akram, Z., Ayub, A., Arfeen, H., & Malghani, M. (2017). The phonological variation of Pakistani English in comparison to standard British English: A case study ofBaloch English speaking students in SBKWU, Quetta. *Al-Burz*, *9*(1), 101–128. https://doi.org/10.54781/abz.v9i1.106

Zeb, A., & Bashar, K. (2019). Paklish Verses English: Lexical and Semantic Features. *Journal of Humanities and Social Studies (JHSSS). 1*(4), 199–204. https://al-kindipublisher.com/index.php/jhsss/article/view/190